GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1028
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
SETTING UP OF PASSPORT OFFICE
Patel Shri Dahya Bhai V.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the difficulties being faced by the people in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu in the absence of a full-fledged passport office there;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal under consideration of the Government in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to set up a passport office at Daman and Diu; and

(d) the time by which the said passport office is likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) No specific complaints have been received relating to passport services for Daman and Diu. Opening of new Passport Office depends on various factors such as the work load and availability of resources. As per existing guidelines there should be at least 50,000 passport applications per annum from an area to justify this. This criterion is not met in the case of Daman and Diu which account for approximately 2000 applications per annum. Besides, as part of the process of decentralization of submission of passport applications to district level and to bring passport services closer to the public, District Passport Cells (DPCs) have been opened in various districts across the country. A DPC has started functioning in Daman since 1st March, 2004.

(b,c&d) Does not arise.